

La Bandera de España



The Coat of Arms: includes the royal seal framed by the Pillars of Hercules, which are the two promontories (Gibraltar and Ceuta) on either side of the eastern end of the Strait of Gibraltar. The symbols on the shield represent Aragon, Castile, and other kingdoms that became modern Spain.

Currency: 1 peseta (Pta) = 100 centimos

Literacy Rate: 96%

Exports: Machinery, wine, foodstuffs (olives, oranges)

Official language: Castilian Spanish. Catalan (17%), Galician (7%), and Basque (Euskera-2%) also spoken.

Major Religion: Roman Catholic

National Sports: Soccer, Bullfighting

El Reino de España

(The Kingdom of Spain)

Capital: Madrid

Area: 194,884 sq miles (includes Canary and Balearic Islands, 2nd largest country in Western Europe, almost the size of Nevada and Utah combined)

Population: 39.4 million 78% urban 22% rural

Ethnic Divisions: Composite of Mediterranean and Nordic ancestry that is reflected in the population of Spain today.
19% Catalan 7% Galician 2% Basque

Important Cities: Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia, Seville, Salamanca, Zaragoza, Vigo, Bilbao

Geographic Regions:

North: The Pyrenees Zone: These mountains separate France from Spain, and include the regions of Navarre, Aragon and Catalonia.

Northwest: The Cantabrian Zone: includes the Basque provinces, Galicia and Asturias.

East: The Levant: The Mediterranean Coast

South: The Andalusian Zone: Includes the cities of Seville, Córdoba and Granada

Central: The Meseta and Interior Zone: vast, flat central plateau, generally arid and somewhat barren

Major Rivers: Río Ebro, Río Tajo, Río Duero, and Río Guadalquivir

Important Figures: Isabel of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon, Gen. Francisco Franco, King Juan Carlos, Pablo Picasso, Hernán Cortés, Francisco Pizarro, Cristobal Colon, El Cid, El Greco

Highest Peak: Pico de Teide (Canary Islands, 12,162 ft): active volcano